

Clarence White style practice sheet

Exercises in his style, not transcriptions. Maxim's Guitar Workshop

How to read the tab: dots are the string lines and numbers are frets. **b** = bend, the number after it is the pitch to aim for (2b4 = fret 2 bent up a whole tone to sound like fret 4). **r** = release back to the fret shown. **D** = downstroke, **U** = upstroke, **>** = accent. Start around 60 to 70 bpm in eighth notes with a metronome and only speed up when it is clean.

Exercise 1: the 3 3 2 roll (G, C, D, G)

Strings 4, 3 and 2 only. Keep the right hand rolling even when the chord changes.

```
1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &
D U D U D U D U D U D U D U
B|.....0.....0.....|.....1.....1.....|
G|...0.....0.....0.....|...0.....0.....0.....|
D|0.....0.....0.....|2.....2.....2.....|
```

```
1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &
D U D U D U D U D U D U D U
B|.....3.....3.....|.....0.....0.....|
G|...2.....2.....2.....|...0.....0.....0.....|
D|0.....0.....0.....|0.....0.....0.....|
```

Option: Shuffler style picking, down down up, on the first two groups.

```
1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &
D D U D D U D U
B|.....0.....0.....|
G|...0.....0.....0.....|
D|0.....0.....0.....|
```

Exercise 2: the 2 3 3 roll he favoured

Same chords, group of two first, so the accents move.

```
1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &
D U D U D U D U D U D U D U
B|...0.....0.....0.....|...1.....1.....1.....|
G|0.....0.....0.....|0.....0.....0.....|
D|...0.....0.....|...2.....2.....|
```

```
1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &
D U D U D U D U D U D U D U
B|...3.....3.....3.....|...0.....0.....0.....|
G|2.....2.....2.....|0.....0.....0.....|
D|...0.....0.....|...0.....0.....|
```

Lick 1: pedal steel style bend in G

Pinky on B string fret 3, ring finger on G string fret 2. Bend the G string a whole tone (A to B) while the D rings, pick the D again, release, resolve to G.

```
1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &
e|.....|
B|3.....3.....0.....|
G|2b4.....r2.0.....0.....|
D|.....0.....0.....|
```

Lick 2: B bender style bend in D (stretch goal)

Ring finger bends the B string at fret 5 a whole tone (E to F sharp) while the pinky holds the high e at fret 5 (A). Resolve to open D.

```
1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &
e|5.....5.....2.....|
B|5b7.....r5.3.....3.....|
G|.....2.....2.....|
D|.....0.....|
```

Lick 3: syncopated open string run in G

Let open strings ring. Accent beat 2 and the "and" of beat 3, and leave beat 3 empty.

```
> >
1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &
D U D U D U D U
e|3..2..0.....|
B|.....3.....0.....|
G|.....2.....0.....|
D|.....|
```

All three licks sit in the first five frets with whole tone bends. Light gauge strings make the bends easier.

Tempo log

Date	Exercise or lick	Metronome bpm	Clean? (yes or no)

Three tips

- 1. Keep the roll going.** Only change string where a melody note falls.
- 2. Accent offbeats and leave space.** What you do not play matters too.
- 3. Tune after bending.** Check your tuning every few minutes.

Listen to

The Byrds, Nashville West
The Byrds, Chestnut Mare
The Kentucky Colonels, Listen to the Mockingbird
The Byrds, Buckaroo (Live at the Fillmore, February 1969)